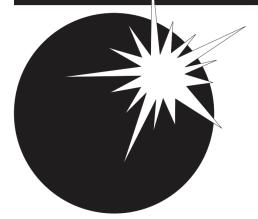
FREE Volume 6 July 31, 2022 Number 5



# The Nubian News

# Loving the Black Perspective



# Memories by Pamela Sim-Jones, First Lady of The Nubian News

My how time flies. Starting in 1989, when four individuals decided to forge ahead with the launch of an African-American newspaper in Trenton, NJ - that was the vision of Richard Harmon, aka Kamau Kujichagulia.

Fast forward thirty-three years and you have a bi-weekly newspaper with a multitude of ads, a Spanish news section, local and national news, guest editors, foreign correspondents, a strong distribution network, and a print run of approximately 6,000 copies per issue.

It's been a long, arduous and exhilarating journey, and Kamau kept the paper in print in the best and worst of times. But now the print runs are coming to an end, but that doesn't mean there isn't another chapter.

It has been an honor and wonderful experience over these past three decades to be a part of The Nubian News family. The memories are endless and the life-long friendships formed are priceless. I am grateful and blessed to have been a part of this wonderful journey - from the very first planning sessions, to the launch of the first edition, first parade and Street fest, local election debates and interviews, and celebrations.

During the formative years, we worked hard and long, and had so much fun at Chez Bellevue, celebrating each other and our collective achievements. The Nubian News volunteer staff has grown and changed over the years. Many move on and come back, picking up right where they left off. I did! That's The Nubian News synergy that pulls you back in, even if only for a few weeks or months. Genuine and sincere commitment and dedication best describes every Nubian News contributor since 1989.

I know that The Nubian News has been a change agent in the Trenton region, Mercer County and beyond. A heartfelt thank you to every person and organization that has supported the paper, from it's infancy to the present. The biggest thank you to our publisher, Kamau Kujichagulia, who is steadfast, loyal, committed and so giving in all aspects of his life. Peace and blessings my brother and we look forward to seeing what's next with The Nubian News. We know it'll be good!

Pamela Sims Jones

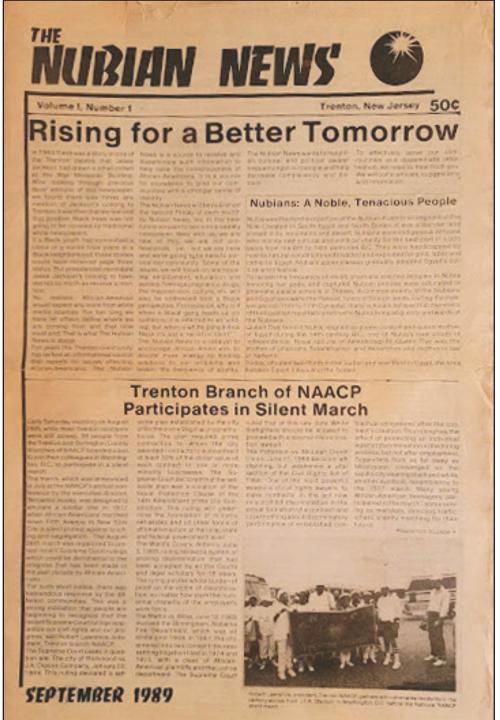
Co-founder

Editor (1989-2000; 2018)

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**Articles - Interviews - Opinions - Videos - Commentary - Events** 





The First Edition of The Nubian News, September 9, 1989 created by original staff members, Richard Harmon, Jessie Jones, Lance Liverman, Pamela Sims, Brenda Pinkston and Diane Hayes.

#### **Memories by Lance Liverman - Past Business Manager**

"When I was asked to be part of an amazing group of dedicated people to start a Black owned and operated newspaper in the Trenton area, I jumped at the chance. The Nubian News has covered over the many years some engaging material. It was a pleasure to be working along Kamau, Pam, Territus, Brenda, Sheila, Art and others. I can truly say that my experience working with the Nubian News has shaped me to be the man I am today. We wish the Nubian News much success in the future.

Lance Liverman

President/Owner of Liverman Associates

If you do not understand White Supremacy (Racism) --- what it is, and how it works --- everything else that you understand, will only confuse you."

Neely Fuller Jr. [1971]



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# Memories by James Lyons -The P-Man GOD bless Da Brudderman aka Kamau and The Nubian News. Back in

GOD bless Da Brudderman aka Kamau and The Nubian News. Back in 1988, when I became a member I was so impressed with the mission of this



organization, to show that TREN-TONIANS (African Americans & Latinos) are proud of their culture. That we need to continue to learn and teach it, and that we are showing a side of the citizens of this Capitol City, that the other papers are not. I admire the bold passion of Da Brudderman, the drive of the various members and contributors. I learned so much from them and Matured very much from the experience.

I am proud to state that I too was an active member of THE NUBIAN NEWS. Writer of The Weight Room, Assistant Art Director, The Homeboy & Valon strips. From the bottom of my heart, from the depths of my soul I want to say THANK YOU BRUDDERMAN. THANK YOU NUBIAN NEWS CREW. THANK YOU TRENTON. I sincerely LOVE YOU ALL. GOD BLESS YOU.

## **Memories by Deborah Smith - Parade Chair**

When I heard The Nubian News was ending their publication after 30 years of positive African America and Spanish news in the City of Trenton NJ, I was heartbroken and delighted at the same time. I wrote and researched about The Trenton Six, I learned how to lay out the paper, I was involved in the First African American Parade and Street Fest and Drill Team Competition and the list goes on and on.

I thank the Nubian News staff for letting me be a part of such a amazing, positive and enlighten world. The publication may be ending but there is still more work to do.

Deborah Smith

# Memories by Arthur Tolbert It's Been A Minute!

By ART TOLBERT AKA MR. ART

Co-Host "The Community Connection" Column – "The Reel Deal"

First, I would like to thank you the publisher Kamau Kujichagulia for this opportunity to be a part of this Nubian News transition; to share memories, accomplishments and just plain old good times. Now don't get me wrong, there was lots of hard work and burn out to go around; writing our columns, lay outs, paste ups, collaging, editing and rewrites until it was, in our eyes, perfect. When it was finished, everybody would breathe and deep sigh of relief and then someone would have to volunteer to drive to the printers in Philly.

Did someone say television, radio we had both and the shows were called "The Community Connection". And don't forget our parades and street fests. Many a night was spent on Duck Island spray painting and building floats at the Marina, fighting mosquitoes and I still can't forget how hot it was! But on Parade Day it was all worth it. A cast of thousands showed up including marching bands and drill teams from all over the tri-state area was in attendance. Honor Guards bearing flags, dignitaries and vendors selling to their heart's delight. Boy did we eat good that day – to look around and see the smiling faces was a joy to behold.

I could go on and on, but I'll stop right here and say "those were the days!"

#### **COMPENSATORY-FUNCTIONAL DEFINITIONS**

Compiled from "The United Independent Compensatory Code/System/Concept by Mr. Neely Fuller Jr.

# Two (2) Basic Methods of Resisting Racism (White Supremacy)

1. "Four-Wallism"

2. "Open-Airism"

The "Four-Wall" method of fighting White Supremacy (Racism) is the general title given to the concept of having a special "meeting place" for those persons who seek to resist White Supremacy.

The "Four Wall" method is the standard and/or traditional procedure used by the Victims of White Supremacy in their resistance to White Supremacy.

It is called the "Four-Wall" method because the non-white people who use the method, plan, talk, and generally try to inspire each other by "meeting" each other regularly in a building that usually has four "Walls".

The "effectiveness" of the meetings in the accomplishment of their purposes are ofttimes judged on the basis of the numbers of people that appear within a walled area at the same time.

The "Open-Air" method of resisting White Supremacy (Racism) is practically the functional opposite of the "Four-Wall" method.

The basic difference between the "Four-Wall" method of resisting Racism, and the "Open-Air" method

is as follows:

The "Four-Wall" method, generally, is characterized by two or more persons attending regular 'meetings" at the same time, in the same place according to a mutual agreement they have made with each other.

The "Open-Air" method, generally is characterized by one or more persons, thinking, saying, or doing specific things, at all times, in different places, according to an individual "agreement" with a specific "code" of thought, speech, and/or action.

# Two (2) Basic Objectives of Correct Law Enforcement

1. To Promote Justice

2. To Eliminate Injustice

A Law is a tool. A Law is a tool that can be used to produce and/or maintain justice. A Law can also be used as a tool to produce, and/or maintain injustice.

Any Law that is enforced, by people, in a manner that does not promote justice, and/or, is enforced in such manner that injustice is not eliminated, is a "non-law". Any person who enforces a "non-law" is acting as an "out-law".

You can order the digital edition of "The United Independent Compensatory Code/System/Concept online at: https://producejustice.com/product/the-unit-ed-independent-compensatory-codesystemconcept-textbook/

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The Nubian News welcomes letters to the editor of reasonable length. Writers should include address and phone number, which will not be published along with name. Opinions and positions taken in articles with bylines are those of the writers. The views expressed in bylined opinion pieces do not necessarily indicate endorsement or support. The Nubian News prints 10,000 copies which are mailed, hand and bulk delivered to each home and business in Trenton, NJ. **609** 858-2777

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# Publishe

I'm happy now. I didn't know why I couldn't publish this last paper. It was supposed to come out in May and now here it is the end of July.

But once I forced myself to sit down and put it together I realized what the problem had been all this time.

This year has been a particularly hard year for me. First my mother died, then three weeks later my sister died. A week after that my aunt died, then the lady who shared my bus with me for more than 10 years died. Two weeks later my nephew died and then my aunt/cousin - we were related on both sides of my mother's family, she died. Then just as I was walking out the house to go to my aunt/cousin's funeral, I find out my beloved cousin died. All of this within a span of four months.

Somehow I got the first four papers of the year on the street. It was about that time I decided to stop publishing The Nubian News. That the May 3rd issue would be the last.

After 33 years I was going to let the ink dry on my hands and put the

Rising for a Better Tomorrow

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paper to bed for the last time.

I was hurting, badly, from all the loss

I experienced in those four months.

Even though our staff members

had submitted all their articles and

everything was edited, whenever I sat

down to the computer to create and

layout the last issue, I just couldn't do

September 9, 1990.

But I couldn't do it.

it.

For years I spent most of my time sitting at my desk in front of my computer, working on some aspect of The Nubian News. But now weeks went by without seeing my desk.

Today, when I forced myself, kicking and screaming, to go down to my office and sit in front of the computer to put together this final issue of the paper, I realized why it had taken so long and so much effort.

Throughout this last edition of The Nubian News there are tributes and memories and from those who, through the years, made The Nubian News what it is.

These were the people who had a dream and the determination to connect with our community and provide an outlet for our community to talk with itself.

That's all we wanted to do - provide an avenue for Black and Brown people to speak for themselves. We had depended on white media to speak for us and what they said about us was not true nor just.

We grew up and were determined

to speak for ourselves. We knew the

loving, generous, beautiful, funny,

strong, fine people we were and we

were tired of the caricatures the

Times and Trentonian made of us.

They wanted us to believe we were

weak and ugly and violent, at one

point the Trentonian referred to

Trenton High School, where our chil-

dren went, as a 'Zoo" as though our

Lance Liverman, Thomas Brown,

Teritius Fortune, Deborah Smith, Timothy Johnson, Darnell Meyers-

Johnson, Clara Dennis, Al Levine,

Sandra Poole, Beverly Keese, Rhonda Green, Denise Hunt,

We knew better and we came together labor of love for all these many years. to put out a different perspective - a Black Perspective. We were a mix of people, none of whom had ever published a newspaper. But we did it anyway, because we love the Black Perspective.

children were animals.

We stayed up all night to put out that first issue, four pages, all night and not just one but a few nights. But we did it and we've been doing it for the last 33 years.

We didn't stop there. After that first year we wanted to celebrate the anniversary of our hard work by giving a community party. The first Street Fest. Then for ten years after that we celebrated our Blackness with an annual African American Parade and Street Fest.

This same band of inexperienced volunteers went on to do even more great things to give voice to our community. For many years we hosted radio shows on WTTM and WIMG. We created and produced a weekly TV show, The African Awareness Forum, which, at the time, had the largest potential audience of any show produced in New Jersey.

The Nubian News was the first newspaper in Trenton to have its own website, www.thenubiannews.com, which is still going strong and getting stronger every day.

Through the years so many wonderfully brilliant and funny people helped us do what we loved so much

So when it came time for me to put the last issue together, I couldn't. Because it is like losing another loved one. The people I've known, the friends I've made, the love we've shared. Now letting all those beautiful, hard-working, loving years and people become a memory is just too much. But it's time to move on.

With Carlos Avila and his family, we made a commitment many years ago to reach out to our Latino/a hermanos y hermanes. Carlos will continue The Nubian News in a different format joining even more so with our Spanish speaking cousins. People have asked through the years why we include Spanish articles. Because there is a large Spanish speaking community in Trenton, a community which is fighting the same battles against the system of white supremacy as we are. We need to unify to fight this war together.

This is the last of what has been a

I want to thank all those who put in

so much of their time and souls in producing this delightful wonder.

We've worked together and loved

together and became friends and

And most of all I praise all of you

who allowed us into your homes and

hearts all these many years. With-

out your support we couldn't have

The Nubian News won't die though.

family together.

existed.

goes forward. Our presence on the internet at our website: www.thenubiannews.com will become stronger. Check us out.

That has been our dream and will

continue to be the dream as Carlos

Kamau Kujichagulia --- Publisher

Again, thank you and farewell.

Facebook likes while:

crackers/nazis in real

time genocidal goose

chasing social views.

slay all distracted

I'm just sayin'

~Adele

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# Memories by Beverly Keese-Kelley

MUBIAN NEWS GMUBIAN NEWS GMUBIAN NEWS

Arthur Tolbert

**Writing Director** 

Abi Asain

Typographer

Richard Harmon

Editor-in-Chief

Pamela A. Sims

**Art Director** 

The Staff banner of The Nubian News on our first Anniversary -

It was 1985 and and I was fresh out of high school at one of the most politically stimulating times of the Gen X era. I heard about the Nubian News from a friend that the NN were looking for reporters and by 1986 I were wearing a Nubian News t-shirt and trying not to miss any meetings.

The Nubian News took on subjects other publications skirted around or not at all. The Nubian news showed us that if nothing else, we can agree to disagree, but let's just address our City's Issues.

Thank you for your gracious contributions to our city. As usual, I know your next venture will be just as awesome.

Beverly Keese-Kelley

nubiannews@thenubiannews.com

Devil lied. Our minds are naturally divinely free. It's our asses that haven't followed. I'm just sayin' ~Adele

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# **Senator Shirley Turner**

BY KAREN HILTON

Shirley Kersey was born in Dover, New Jersey, Morris County, and she was one of five children. Her family lived on the poor side of town near the railroad tracks, where all the Black people lived. Robert and Catherine Kersey, Shirley's parents, hard-working were people who had to drop out of school to help support their families and were not able to complete their education. The family home was torn down as part of the urban renewal program, which Senator Turner first said was the "urban removal" program. Shirley and her siblings went to live with her maternal grandmother in North Carolina. Eventually her dad found a place



in Dover New Jersey and relocated his family back to this city in a different area. One day while walking from school, Shirley saw and heard fire engines. It was her family home that was on fire and it burned to the ground. All they had were the clothes on their backs and the Kersey family was homeless-again. They lived with her aunts until her dad was able to purchase a house that was located near the former home

the GI Bill.

Shirley and her siblings were fortunate to attend a good school where they were the only Black students. home and earned high grades. family through

"We learned very early in life that you can't be average if you're Black. You must work twice as hard in order to be recognized and to succeed", she said. One of the areas that Shirley excelled in was athletics. She was on the girls' basketball, field hockey, volleyball, and soft ball teams and she was the captain of all these teams in high school. In her senior year Shirley was elected president of the class, voted most popular and she was the president of the Girls Athletic Association. Shirley was also on the rifle team and obtained the level of Sharpshooter Bar 2. All these extra-curricular activities and being an asthmatic did not have a negative effect on Shirley's academics. She was a good student

Shirley knew that her parents couldn't afford to send her to college. She received a partial scholarship for a KarenKaptures - Trenton, NJ

student that excelled in athletics and who was going on to teach health and physical education. The scholarship wasn't enough to cover Shirley's tuition at Trenton State College (The College of New Jersey), so she had to work two jobs waitressing. One of those jobs was at the famous Willie's restaurant on Willow Street in Trenton. Shirley earned her degree and was hired by the Trenton Board of Education, and she traveled to three different schools teaching physical education and health. I attended Junior #1 and Mrs. Turner was my health teacher. She even remembered my class, 9L, and surprised me with other stories and facts from that time period (late 60's, early 70's) which was over 50 years ago. Shirley taught for three years in Trenton and then entered Rider College (Rider University) where she earned her master's degree in counseling while working in the Education Opportunity Fund program. She was pleased to see some of the students that she had taught in Trenton, and she was employed at Rider for 44 years. Senator Turner was elected free-

holder (now called commissioner) in 1984; she was inspired to enter the political arena because a company wanted to place a garbage incinerator facility in East Trenton, and she was against it. Shirley was the first Black woman to be elected freeholder and there and there hasn't been one since then she said. The newspapers and unions didn't support her second run for freeholder because of her opposition to this facility. Shirley was elected to the New Jersey State Assembly in 1994 where she served until her senate run in 1998. Many believed that Shirley could not beat her opponent Dick LaRossa yet she did. Senator Turner is serving her eighth term and she became the first woman and the first African American to be elected as Senate President Pro Tempore.

Senator Turner and her husband Donald have been married for 57 years and they have two children and five grandchildren.

BEAT YOU! tm

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Volume 6 July 31, 2022 **FREE** Number 5 how far would you go if they were sick? Welcome to Capital Health. When someone you care about is sick, you'll do whatever it takes to make sure they get the best care. And so do we. With a collaborative structure so our doctors can craft a treatment that's uniquely right for you. With primary care physicians who never schedule an appointment that's less than 20 minutes. With world-renowned surgeons that are changing cancer treatment. capital real Because you'd go to the ends of the earth for the people you care about. And we do too.

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# El Latino News

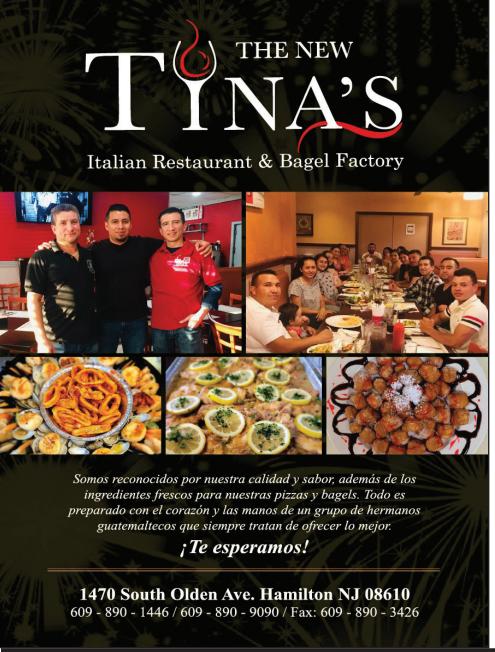
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#### Verano Caliente

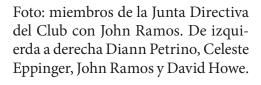
TRENTON-El verano esta caluroso en la ciudad de Trenton, insta este a refrescarnos con una bebida fría. Y que mejor escoger un lugar propio como Frankye's Guatemalan Grill para estos menesteres. Frankye's es un lugar para comer bien y disfrutar del servicio atento y amable que ofrece el personal que ahí labora. En la foto; desde izq: Elizabeth, Nataly y Diana posan y nos ofrecen una sonrisa invitando a que vengan y compartan con sus amistades en ambiente de sano esparcimiento....Dirección: 1500 South Clinton Ave. Trenton. Frankye's es uno de los pioneros restaurantes de la comunidad hispana de Trenton.



# BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS: JOHN RAMOS ES EL BOY DEL AñO 2022

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON- El pasado jueves 28 de abril el "Boys & Girls Clubs" del condado de Mercer organizó a nivel local la celebración de la Juventud del Año 2022. El evento se realiza anualmente a nivel local, regional y nacional, con el fin de reconocer el liderazgo y dedicación de los jóvenes adolescentes miembros permanentes del club que se han destacado en los diferentes programas que dicho club ofrece. En el condado de





By Carlos Avila

TRENTON- Last Thursday, April 28, the "Boys & Girls Clubs" of Mercer County organized the celebration

of the Youth of the Year 2022 at the local level. The event is held annually at the local, regional and national levels, in order to recognize the leadership and dedication of the young adolescents who are permanent members of the club who have excelled in the different programs that the club offers. In Mercer County the winner of this award is John Ramos(18). John has spent much of his childhood and adolescence as an active member of



Mercer el ganador de este galardón es John Ramos(18). John ha pasado gran parte de su niñez y adolescencia como miembro activo de Boys and Girls Clubs asistiendo a programas de fútbol, campamentos de vacaciones, programas extracurriculares, actividades de verano y mucho más. Sin duda su participación en estas actividades dentro del club ha contribuido en templar su personalidad, su desarrollo físico-atlético y en soñar a ser un profesional ya sea dentro del deporte o en el ámbito de la medicina. John actualmente cursa su ultimo año de secundaria y ya le han abierto las puertas algunas universidades que quieren recibirle para que emprenda sus estudios superiores y a su vez contar con su aporte como jugador de futbol-soccer. El Club "me ha ayudado personalmente a desarrollar mis habilidades que serán vitales para disfrutar mi vida" señaló John tras recibir dicho reconocimiento. Durante la ceremonia John fue entrevistado por los dirigentes del club y como ganador del condado de Mercer automáticamente entró en la competencia Juventud del Año de Nueva Jersey. "We wish John all the best in his studies in college and can't wait to see what he accomplishes" manifestó el club en un comunicado.

the Boys and Girls Clubs attending soccer programs, vacation camps, after school programs, summer activities and much more. Without a doubt, his participation in these activities within the club has contributed to tempering his personality, his physical-athletic development and dreaming of being a professional either in sports or in the field of medicine. John is currently in his last year of high school and some universities have already opened their doors to him so that he can undertake his higher studies and at the same time count on his contribution as a football-soccer player. The Club "has helped me personally to develop my skills that will be vital to enjoy my life" said John after receiving this recognition. During the ceremony John was interviewed by club officials and as the Mercer County winner he automatically entered the New Jersey Youth of the Year competition. "We wish John all the best in his studies in college and can't wait to see what he accomplishes," the club said in a statement. Photo: members of the Club's Board with John Ramos. From left Diann Petrino, Celeste Eppinger, John Ramos and David Howe.

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## **EN CONTACTO CON LA COMUNIDAD**

Enseñando a los niños y niñas a era de fiesta tanto los educadores, los cuidar el medio ambiente

POR CARLOS AVILA



TRENTON- El pasado viernes 29 de abril los administradores del Jardín de Infantes "Primero los Niños" realizaron una importante actividad al aire libre. En abril 22 se celebra el Dia de la Tierra y en ese contexto se invitó a todos los padres y madres de familia para junto con sus hijos traer una planta o un arbolito para sembrar en el jardín de la escuela. El ambiente niños y niñas junto con sus padres se veían conectados teniendo una

> experiencia con naturaleza. "Quisiera ver que todas las escuelas públicas de Trenton hagan esto" manifestó padre Francisco Pozo director del centro educativo. Así mismo envió un mensaje a toda la comunidad hispana en el sentido de que debemos cuidar el agua, mantener limpia nuestra

casas y veredas sin botar basura en las calles ni los ríos. Sin duda esta actividad que parece pequeña tiene un inmenso mensaje para motivar a nuestros niños y niñas a sembrar un árbol y cuidar del medio ambiente. El Jardín de Infantes "Primero los Niños" viene realizando esta actividad por 19 años, según indicó el

Hay escasez de fórmula para bebés

POR CARLOS AVILA

TRENTON – Los padres y madres de familia de Nueva Jersey están preocupadas ya que están teniendo

Asamblea de Nueva Jersey. Esta es una situación verdaderamente grave para muchas madres que dependen de la fórmula como la principal



problemas para encontrar fórmula láctea para sus bebés. "Las madres de todo el país, incluido yo misma, estamos sintiendo el impacto de la escasez de fórmula para bebés. No poder proporcionar la nutrición que su bebé necesita debido a problemas en la cadena de suministro es increíblemente estresante, y mi corazón está con los padres que actualmente se preguntan cómo van a alimentar a sus bebés" señaló la asambleísta Gabriela Mosquera (D-Camden, Gloucester), presidenta del Comité de Mujeres y Niños de la

fuente de nutrición para sus hijos pequeños. La escasez se vio agravado por el retiro de estos productos realizado por Abbott, que en febrero se vio obligada a cerrar su mayor planta de producción de fórmula láctea en Estados Unidos. "Me alienta escuchar que el presidente Biden, la Administración de Drogas y Alimentos de los EE. UU. y los fabricantes están trabajando juntos las 24 horas del día para abordar esta escasez. Manifestó la asambleísta vía comunicado de prensa.



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# The Nubian News Transitions

Reporting Beyond Cyberspace in The Medium of L.O.V.E.

(DOTS EQUAL THE DETAILS OF THE STO-RY)

The Nubian News' reporting now transitions from its birth on paper into the realm of cyberspace. The case can be made to embrace cyber learning and communication media to build learning capacity and receive information in part, not exclusively. Consider that exclusive use of computer learning and communication, can be construed as digital discrimination at this time in the integration of the technology in human culture.

That evolution of dissemination of information via cyber media is an advancement, as all technological progress tends to be incorrectly viewed to be, is at best debatable. Effects on information retention, mental health and alteration and reduction of the organics of brain function is an actual concern. It is a fact that certain online viewing influences the rate of teen suicide. There is discussion that mitigation of the tactile function of reading and turning a page that forces more concentration and compounded use thereby strengthening of the brain may be inhibited. Another practical consideration is the high probability of easily manipulated and hacked digital identity information and theft which is often a life damaging circumstance.

A separate nostalgic note, particular to having a newspaper, is the absence of treasuring keep sakes for birthdays, awards, sports and academic achievements with clipped articles with photos of events and announcements. People, accept for some criminals, like to see their pictures in the paper and names in print. A bit of an aside is attention also given to physical advantages of the hand and finger dexterity used to hold a pencil or pen to script write and print. It can be posited that there

too is a loss of the appreciation and righteous anger, nurturing, leadsatisfaction arising from the aesthetic beauty of characters and their writing. Wherein manual print becomes a lost art.

Psychological studies and theories, positive and negative, abound, and the jury is still out regarding how experiencing the world digitally in total, with its element of inherent human disconnection, impacts empathy and cognition as relates to development of the human brain, behavior, life, moreover, the soul.

The record of civilizations through institutions come to be such as The Nubian News, began being transmitted in stone, then paper. Now, in this age, the report of human experience is to be flung upon the infinite vastness of the "digiverse". A woeful circumstance as lots of significant data is corrupted and loss to this abyss.

Devine, African beauty, sensuality, intelligence, power, Nguzo Saba, sacrifice, legacy, sharing, authenticity,

ership, inclusivity, self criticism, audacity, imperfection, bravery, sensitivity, teaching, constructive criticism and an expansive paradigm; L.O.V.E, is the stuff of an evolved signal and at the same time the medium of immutable creation that existed before humans rendered scraped etchings, and survives and strengthens to this day, and will beyond. Propelled on this endless pulse, so exists the reporting of The Nubian News to remain a voice, a force for Black people, forever present, accessible, retrievable, uninterrupted, which can never be lost. The Nubian News will broadcast digitally as the generation requires and as it exists in the medium of L.O.V.E.

So Keep L.O.V.E. Present and in the significant Keeping, ensure the continual breaking news that L.O.V.E. Is Present via The Nubian News.

## Memories of Brenda Pinkston **Art Director**

It has been one of the most favor- joke) but an artist, I will let a master

able times in my life and career to be of words speak for me! I leave each the art editor of the Nubian News, of you with a quote from Ms. Maya

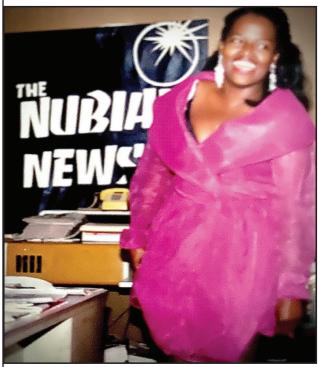
> Angelou, along with two of my paintings of Ms. Angelou. It's a well known quote but the meaning runs deep within my spirit.

> "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

This perfectly describes how I feel about my experience amongst The Nubian News Kingdom.

In my new found NC voice, Luv Y'all and y'all come see me in my Uptown Charlotte, Studio Gallery anytime!

It was because of the Artistic eyes of Brenda Pinkston, our Art Director, and Art Tolbert and James Lyons, Asst. Art Directors, that **The Nubian News** was the best looking paper in New Jersey.



Trenton, New Jersey. I worked with such an incredible group of bright, intelligent young men and women that I have ever met. They were wise beyond their years and full of talent, knowledge, compassion & passion! Because I am not a writer(inside



Volume 6 July 31, 2022 Number 5

### **America Hell of Mass Murder**

BY AL ALATUNJI

There's an African proverb it goes "When you want to measure the wellness of a community you ask: How are the children doing?"

In America, the answer is very clear on how it treats its children. It is the same answer as the way it treats its middle aged and seniors.

It is best reflected in events in Buffalo and a week later in Texas. Middle aged and seniors enter a supermarket store to shop; ten year old fourthgrade children enter the sanctuary of an elementary school to explore words and worlds of wonder, joy, imagination, hope and fulfillment. Both groups leave in body bags. This is America.

It cannot, it must not be sugar coated, this is America. Let us not be fooled. The attention and momentary outrage is due to the number of people murdered at the same location, at the same time.

However, each day in the US is just another savage, blood-letting day in the glorified fashion of the Old Wild West with its shootouts and violence. Blood and bodies line the streets and alleys in America. Each day far exceeded the single day totals of the one day carnage in Buffalo and Texas.

"And the only safe place to live is on an Indian reservation. And the band played on."

Small time and small town Trenton had 40 such murders the last two years and may equal or exceed that number in 2022. No big deal, just another day in Trenton, just another day in America.

It basically has just become a numbers game. We see numbers but not people. Almost similar to being at a slot machine in Atlantic City putting coins in the slot machine. After a while we forget the coins are actually money. They become something else. Those who died in Buffalo are not people who danced, raised families; attended church; rooted for sports teams; rode the bus; played the lottery or were high school sport standouts. They are just mere sacrificial statistics of who America is.

Those who died in Texas a week later were not ten and 11 year old babies who did the latest TiK Tok dances and film videos on Tik Tok; listened to the latest music; played video games and liked anything with wheels; had athlete and team favorites and favorite songs; celebrated birthdays and making the honor roll; and loved their brothers and sisters.

parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles. They were not ten and 11 year old innocents who enjoyed fries and burgers, nuggets and milk shakes; dreamed of playing in the NBA and MLB; becoming doctors, teachers, marine biologists, artists and lawyers, traveling to distant planets; and who could still enjoy Christmas.No, they were not ten and 11 year old children of God fashion in His/Her/Their image who babysat younger brothers and sisters: loved pets and animals; looked forward to wearing eye black grease when playing baseball and softball; found Halloween exciting; liked soccer, basketball, football, baseball, softball and gymnastics; saved money to go to Disney World, liked to play with Play-Doh: and enjoyed the movie: Encanto. They too, like the dead in Buffalo, were nothing more than numbers. More tragic statistics.

The Sunday after the murders in Buffalo and Texas, how many churches, temples, mosques, whatever throughout the US failed, perhaps even refused to knowledge those deaths because the individuals who died were not similar enough to the people who made up the congregations of their church, temple or mosque. Unable, unwilling to see in the faces and the stories of those

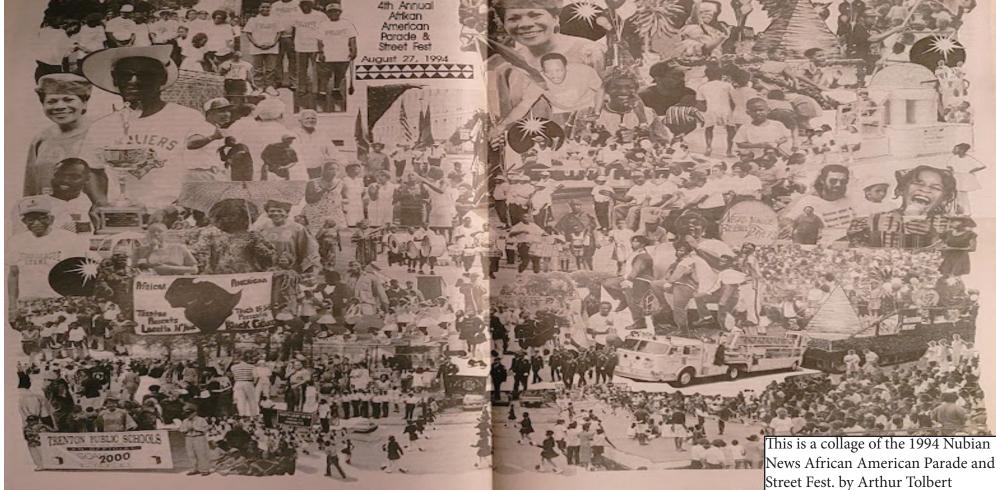
children, their own children and grandchildren. That too is America. For years, decades, Americans have been fed a steady diet of propaganda about how free and wonderful America was and is: America the greatest country in the history of civilization that nowhere was there more democracy and freedom than America. It was the ultimate propaganda and lie that served the American government and allied institutions well. The then-Soviet Union, Cuba, China, Iran and Iraq were pointed to as evil places where people were not free. Americans swallowed it down and asked for more.

However, how much freedom does one really have when they are afraid to go to a supermarket, sit in a park, a movie theater, a ballpark or even their house of worship for fear of not coming home due to senseless gun violence? How free and how great is America when parents, grandparents and others have to wonder if the goodbye given to their child or children, grandchild or grandchildren will be their last goodbye because America is not safe for children?

A great philosopher once said, "Don't worry, If there's a hell below, we're all gonna go." It is called America. It has always been America.



For more information on how you and your organization can be a part of history - stay tuned to www.thenubiannews.com and The Nubian News Page on FaceBook



# Nubian News Book Review

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

## "Black Boy Smile: A Memoir in Moments"

BY D. WATKINS

c.2022, Legacy Lit \$27.00 240 pages

Honesty is the best policy.

That's what they say, anyhow. The truth will set you free, that's another one. But then there are those little lies that get you by, social ones to avoid hurt, the-check-is-in-the-mail whoppers that avoid trouble, and you start to wonder about this policy

lying about returning the following

He lied for his father, when they couldn't get a "hack" to take them home on a rainy night. He denied that his father was a junkie, knowing that his Dad was shooting up. He said he was "straight" (meaning all good) when his cousin was murdered, but he was devastated inside. He omitted the fact that he was dealing

> drugs when he spoke with his dad later. He lied to women, he fibbed to friends, he lied to his mother, to a nurse, and to himself.

> And then someone left him a book that changed his life. He discovered things about himself pointed him in direction he wanted to go. He met a woman who loved him and taught him to love. And though he didn't totally give up sins of omission, he learned unpolished truth about telling mistruths.

The title of this book should give you one big clue

about its content. That last word, it's true: "Black Boy Smile" will make you smile, too.

Reading this memoir is like going through a pile of pictures with author D. Watkins. Here's a snapshot, taken when he was small. Here's a bunch, taken his summer at camp and boy, that was wild. Here he is as a teen, a friend, a drug dealer. Early tales invite readers to laugh at the typical-kidness of it all; later ones make us shake our heads at what might've happened and the lies that kept it all going. Each is told in a relaxed manner that lets readers know that not all lies lead to bad things.

Without being a spoiler, that's something you can count on. Don't peek ahead, but "Black Boy Smile" has the sweet kind of ending you want in a memoir, and that's the honest truth.

## "My Seven Black Fathers:

A Young Activist's Memoir of Race, Family, and the Mentors Who Made Him Whole"

BY WILL JAWANDO

c.2022, Farrar, Straus and Giroux \$28.00 232 pages

They say it takes a village. This Abuelita has wisdom to offer. That Grandfather shares

secrets. An Auntie can teach, a Tio

**MY SEVEN** 

A YOUNG ACTIVIST'S MEMOIR OF RACE,

FAMILY, AND THE MENTORS WHO

MADE HIM WHOLE

where I went to school."

His step-father, Joseph Jacob, gave Jawando his "Black American identity." His fourth-grade teacher, Mr. Williams - the first Black male teacher he'd ever seen - tutored him on respect and respectability. His mother's co-worker, Jay Fletcher, a gay man, taught Jawando that showing vulnerability was necessary to be "whole." Coach Wayne Holmes

showed him how to succeed. Deen Sanwoola, a friend and mentor, gave Jawando "perspective" on his "Nigerian identity." Barack Obama, with whom Jawando worked, showed Jawando his "birthmark" in his outsideof-mainstream name. And from his own birth-father, once they connected again and traveled to Nigeria together, he found forgiveness and understanding.

"Now the healing could begin," Jawando said. "All it took was a four-thousand-mile journey together."

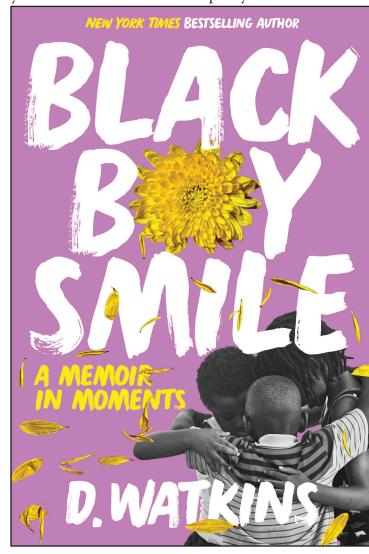
Sit up and pay attention.

That's what "My Seven Black Fathers" asks you to do. It oozes with gratitude and grace, it flashes with remembered anger and calm, and, while author Will Jawando tells his story, it asks you to pay attention.

That's not hard to do. Jawando's childhood, which he relates in great detail, was like that of many Black boys, but with a difference: seven Black men gave of their time to help form him, which he indicates doesn't happen for a lot of children. And yet, despite its benefits, getting the mentorship was a struggle sometimes - a surprising point that surfaces but isn't belabored, nor is Jawando's reasoning for why this matters. Like any good storyteller, he tells, then lets his tale linger, leaving an impression you'll come back to, time and again.

It shouldn't be a surprise if "My Seven Black Fathers" might also spur you to mentor a kid, or to somehow get involved in a child's life now or soon. In the meantime, this memoir on being a Black man has a lot to offer.

On your way to the bookstore or library, pick up "Daddy Speaks Love" by Leah Henderson, illustrated by **E.B.** Lewis. It's a cute picture book for kids ages 3-5 about the love between father and child.



thing. Sometimes, as in the new book "Black Boy Smile" by D. Watkins, lying is surviving.

It might not've been the first time D. Watkins lied, but the lie he told when he was about to start school was the first one he remembers: he stood up for a friend whose Game Boy was stolen. When adults asked how D. got hurt, he didn't tell them that a bigger boy beat him up. Instead, he said he "fell down playing basketball."

He didn't want to go away to summer camp when he was 9. He didn't want to leave his friends in his east Baltimore neighborhood, but his mother lied and said his cousins were going. At camp, he lied to get into the cabin where he thought his cousins would be, and he lied about being experienced with girls. When he left, he was overjoyed to escape, but not before

can show, and neighbors and ninongs can contribute more to a baby's life. It takes a village, no one should have to raise a child alone - and as in the new book "My Seven Black Fathers" by Will Jawando, no child should have to grow up that way, either.

WILLJAWAND

As the biracial child of a white mother and a Nigerian father, Will Jawando says he struggled to fit in until a boy at the basketball courts befriended him. As with many childhood friendships, the two drifted apart and one day, Jawando learned that his buddy had been killed. The incident still reminds him that compassion and grief are forever interlinked.

It also, he says, "made room in my heart for the mentorship of my seven Black fathers."

Studies show that "a father in the home matters to his Black son," no matter their income or what their neighborhood looks like. Even a father-figure works: Jawando says that he is the man he is today because of "the Black men that I gained access to because of my mother's job and FREE Volume 6 July 31, 2022 Number 5

# **Publisher's Reflections on The Nubian News**

BY SEAN JENKINS

When my uncle told me he was retiring, I asked him if anyone had interviewed him. I didn't realize that I would be the one interviewing him until our call ended. When we met for the interview, I asked him how his staff felt about his retirement. Kamau Kujichagulia initiated the Nubian News in 1984 and has been the publisher for over thirty years. His staff seemed upset about his retirement, but also hopeful about new directions for the newspaper. According to Kamau, Carlos Avila will most likely take over as the publisher to ensure that the newspaper becomes "fifty percent Spanish and fifty percent African-American." Kamau also clarified that his new focus would be to improve the web presence for the Nubian News: "My goal has always been to put a newspaper in every home and business in Trenton because then everybody has a very good opportunity to read the same thing so that if something happens, most of the people will know about it." Since most readers engage with news on their phones, Kamau expressed that he wanted to incorporate web stories from Black and world news services. Tanya Turner and Al Alatunji would also assist with incorporating more web stories. "If we build it up so that it's a place people want to go to, then more people would go to it."

Our discussion then shifted to ideas and innovations. Kamau reflected on the synergy that he shared with the writers, artists, business people during early 90s to mid-90s. "The

core staff went from ten up to fifteen, sixteen people...At one point, the paper was like thirty-six pages long... Anyway, it was just so much fun. We laughed and joked and talked...I guess if we worked as hard as we socialized, we'd have gotten done a whole lot quicker...But we always came out with a very quality product." The radio and TV shows that the Nubian News produced were innovations. "We had spots in Trenton, and in Hamilton, and in Bordentown, and in Willingboro, and in Camden, and in South Brunswick...We had the largest potential audience...potentially, we could reach more people than anyone else who produced in the state of New Jersey back in the day..." There was also the African American Parade and Street Fest from City Hall to Trenton High School.

Kamau informed me that the "impetus for running a newspaper" began with Jesse Jackson and Pamela Sims-Jones. Jesse visited Trenton in 1984 during his run for president of the United States, but neither the Trenton Times nor the Trentonian provided information about when and where to meet him. "We need a paper of our own so that we can tell people that Jackson is going to be coming to Trenton or things are going to be happening in Trenton and then people could come out and support it." Kassahun Checole, the publisher of Africa World Press and the Red Sea Press, later visited Kamau in his print shop. He then met Pam, and after five years of planning, the Nubian News was created.

Although love for the community

gave birth to the Nubian News, Kamau confessed that the need for energy, resources, and reparations makes it difficult to continue the business. The core staff decreased significantly in size over the "You years. work full-time jobs and basically come into the Nubian News, which is another fulltime job...after six, seven years, people just got tired..." 2016, Kamau worked with **SCORE** the business administration to qualify for

a loan of \$240,000. Even though he fulfilled SCORE's requirements, he was denied. "The most important two people I needed were Sales people. To be able to hire two Sales people who would have gone out into the streets and got sales, got advertisements...I wanted two writers who would give me the content...Good people need to be paid." Hopefully, the new business direction will allow the Nubian News to continue sharing the voices of Trentonians.

THE NEW SERSEYS ONLY AFRICANCIATION NEW SOURCE

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STREAM OF THE NEW SOURCE

Senator Shirley Turner has been a long time supporter of The Nubian News. She has been there for us since the very beginning. In the September 1994 edition she is pictured as the Grand Marshall or as we called her "Queen" of the African American Parade and Street Fest which The Nubian News sponsored for more than 10 years. She also worked hard for TNN in the background. If it wasn't for her efforts we may have closed our doors many years before now. Thank you Miss Shirley.

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BEAT YOU! tm

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# Violence Begets Violence

The Police Won't Help Us Stop Violence - Because They Are Violent

Prosecutors Won't Help Us Stop Violence - Because They Are Violent



liberty, and reputation, than any other person in America.' - Justice Robert H. Jackson



The Courts Won't Help Us Stop Violence - Because They Are Violent

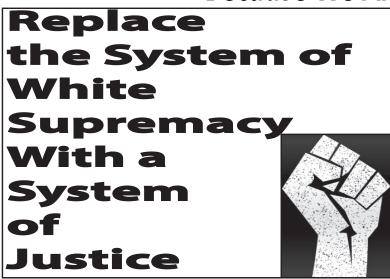
The State Won't Help Us Stop Violence - Because It is Violent

**GOVERNMENT HAS A** MONOPOLY ON THE LEGAL USE OF FORCE AND VIOLENCE



The United States Won't Help Us Stop Violence - Because It Is Violent

Our People Are the Only Ones Who Can Stop Violence In Our Community Because We Are Not A Violent People





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